

Roger's grandson, Frederick II., on succeeding, found the greater towns of Sicily in possession of liberties, doubtless increased in the age! of anarchy which filled the gap between the death of his father Henry VI. (1197) and his own accession, but substantially reaching back to grants of the first two Rogers. These he generally confirmed; thus to Palermo he granted that commodities might be freely exported and imported without payment of dues (*ftttbellte*) except certain articles which were exempted by social command; the citizens were given the right to cut timber freely in the forests of the Parco and fiefs pasturage in the environs, and none of them might be indicted by petition of the officiate of the Curia for any public or private, civil or criminal matter (lao and 1233). He found Messina in possession of the privilege that no citizen might be brought to judgment at first instances save before the city courts themselves, and that for not involving *tea majestas* such as treason, forgery, homicide, the ordeal by battle was not admitted. Frederick III. again in the first half of the 14th century confirmed abundant liberties of a similar nature in Syracuse, Trapani, Noto, Girgenti,

which were
taken to be of ancient origin,
Cefalu is an instance of a deliberate*
royal foundation, Roger 11,, landing here in 1130
from Italy
after a violent storm, founded an it
tomb of grati-
tude the cathedral of Cefalu, which he*
afterwards
made the seat of a bishopric. He abso-
luted to